

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 01388 110618Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 AS-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ORM-02 DHA-02 ACDA-07 /079 W  
-----001958 110619Z /10

P R 110600Z JUL 77  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8155  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1388

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SHUM, TW

SUBJ: THE MIG-19 DEFECTION: PRC (NON)REACTION

1. TO DATE THE PRC HAS REMAINED OFFICIALLY MUTE ON THE MIG-19  
DEFECTION FROM FUKIEN TO TAIWAN. NOT SURPRISINGLY, NEITHER  
PRC OFFICIAL MEDIA NOR SURVEYS OF THE FOREIGN PRESS HAVE  
CARRIED A WORD.

2. BUT THE BASIC STORY HAS UNDOUBTEDLY TRICKLED OUT TO THE  
COGNOSCENTI AND EVEN TO THE PEKING MAN IN THE STREET --  
THANKS TO RESIDENT FOREIGNERS WHO, FINDING THE STORY TOO  
JUICY, SHARED IT IMMEDIATELY AND SPONTANEOUSLY WITH CHINESE  
ASSOCIATES AND ACQUAINTANCES. CHINESE LOW-LEVEL REACTIONS --  
AS CONVEYED TO US BY THE FOREIGN INFORMANTS -- WERE TYPICALLY  
BLASE AND UNCONCERNED. TWO REACTIONS, PROBABLY REPRESENTATIVE  
OF PREVAILING ATTITUDES, SHOULD SUFFICE:  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 01388 110618Z

"CHINA HAS A POPULATION OF OVER 800 MILLION PEOPLE. WHAT  
DIFFERENCE CAN ONE PERSON MORE OR LESS MAKE?"

"CHINA IS A BIG COUNTRY WHICH HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN  
UNGOVERNABLE. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THERE MAY BE  
A FEW WHO ARE UNHAPPY AND WANT TO LEAVE".

3. ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE BREAKING STORY, OFFICIALS OF THE  
FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT MERELY "TOOK THE  
QUESTION". SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT REPLIED TO INQUIRING  
JOURNALISTS.  
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, DEFECTION, MIG-19, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PEKING01388  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770245-0618  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770771/aaaacjrl.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ef22f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1904065  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE MIG-19 DEFECTION: PRC (NON)REACTION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, SHUM, MMOL, TW, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ef22f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009